Short Bus

* Author: Jonathan Mooney, individual w/dyslexia
* Author tells story on personal level but makes it easy for the reader to follow {gives an inside view}
* Personal stories about his situations from when he was younger
* Jonathan Mooney was a special education student
* Definition of normal?
* Very different then what ive been learning in my special ed courses
* Importance of including the family/helping them understand the situation🡪school district left his mom very confused
* Mooney is on a journey across the states in a short bus
* Short bus🡪important & symbolic {symbol of special education}
* Labels placed on him as a child stuck with him {explains how it affected him as he was growing up and still affects him to this day }
* Hesitant about proposing to his wife b/c he felt like he didn’t deserve to have someone like her
* Traveling to people around the world who have disabilities & sharing these encounters
* Inspirational {hes not lecturing anyone he is talking with them}
* Reliving his past through others & their stories {painful experiences}
* \*\*be understanding & accepting
* Visit with the young girl who is deaf & blind🡪wasn’t sure how to/if he should approach her b/c he was not use to physical disabilities {hard time understanding her}
* Kelly hitting her lows lead her to depression
* Quotes: pg. 135: "Good can come from bad. I just haven't found the good yet." pg. 137: "Sometimes these painful things make you who you are."
* Important to be open w/everyone even in uncomfortable situations, give everyone a chance
* Burning Man🡪find out point of his short bus journey: trying to find himself {the Jonathan Mooney who has overcome obstacles & exceeded expectations}
* Was planning on burning photos during the ceremony but instead decides to burn things that were said to him in the past {it was not him that should be burnt but the views others had on him}
* Understands that being different is common
* Uncle says “sickness is really normal” showing not only approval from his family but proving that there is no real “normal”
* Accepts that special education no longer defines him at the end when he goes in the pool of naked men fully clothed
* Kent: ADHD, Kelly: Jonathans sister